

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /004 R

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P 120153Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 093335

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. SORRY I WAS NOT ABLE TO RESPOND SOONER TO INQUIRY ABOUT
MAKEUP OF THE PARTY. ORIGINAL CONCEPT WAS SMALLER IS BETTER:
PAUL, MARSHALL, LES, REG, ME, AND ONE FROM DOD, PLUS
SPOKESMAN, S/S ETC. SEVERAL HAVE NOW BEEN ADDED, INCLUDING
JCS AND RALPH. CABLE SHOULD BE COMING OUT TOMORROW. I
HAVE ASKED THAT IT SPECIFY EMBASSY TO CONVEY INFO, WITH
SOVIET EMBASSY INFORMED, RATHER THAN VICE VERSA AS IN PAST.

2. WE'VE HAD OUR HANDS FULL WITH CASE WHICH IS NOW IN
PRESS, AS YOU CAN IMAGINE. CONSTERNATION AMONG SOVIETS IS
RUNNING VERY HIGH.

3. MARSHALL'S BOSS HAS REJECTED HIS RECOMMENDATION ON
HOUSING. RECOMMENDATION WAS THAT CLOSURE WOULD TAKE PLACE
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ON APRIL 15 BUT TO BE LIFTED WHEN THEY GAVE US FIRM COM-
MITMENT ON HOUSING WHICH SATIFIED US. REASON FOR REJECTION
WAS THAT HE DOES NOT WANT TO TAKE STEP AT THIS TIME, WITH-
OUT FORCLOSING OPTION OF DOING IT LATER. WE WILL WORK OUT
SUGGESTED LINE TO USE WITH SOVIETS TOMORROW, BUT MEANWHILE
TRUST YOU WILL KEEP US INFORMED OF ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS ON
HOUSING FRONT. VANCE

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